

Additional Information on Eulji Theatre:

- Considers the boundaries between reality and the imagination
(https://artsandculture.google.com/asset/six-points-mexico/oQEaVU_RR95L5Q)
- “The artist visited the DMZ over fifty times and took a series of photographs there for one year from December 2017, when tensions were at their peak, to December 2018, when a pacific mood began to prevail. He selected 13 observatories among those in the DMZ’s eastern front to the western front, and visited them each season to take photos. The observatories, having become popular sites of “security tourism,” are regarded as discrete “theaters” in the artist’s conception. They include Peace Theater at Ganghwa Island, Communist Extinction Theater and Victory Theater at Cheorwon, Seventh Star Theater at Hwacheon, Eulji Theater at Yanggu, and Unification Theater at Goseong. One of these, the Eulji Theater, is presented in this exhibition. These photographs include a dual component of fictional mise-en-scène and documentation, as they include actors nonchalantly posing among the tourists. The 13 single-act plays tell stories about the DMZ as seen from the observatories.” (Real DMZ project: <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/real-dmz-project?hl=en>)
- Broader project: (<https://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20210830000869>)
- Also included in this exhibition about the DMZ:
<https://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/2019/03/20/artsDesign/A-look-at-the-past-present-and-future-of-the-DMZ-Exhibit-features-human-life-and-nature-around-the-zone-between-the-two-Koreas/3060856.html>
- “At such observatories, having become popular sites of ‘security tourism,’ the guides tell the visitors episodes about the DMZ, which sound unbelievable and sometimes mythical,” Jung said. “And the tourists look at North Korean people through the glass of the observatory in the same way they do at a zoo. [This is] ironic and comical. It makes the observatory a theater in my work.”
(<https://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/2019/03/20/artsDesign/A-look-at-the-past-present-and-future-of-the-DMZ-Exhibit-features-human-life-and-nature-around-the-zone-between-the-two-Koreas/3060856.html>)
- PMA (<https://press.philamuseum.org/shape-of-time-korean-art-after-1989/>)
“Yeondoo JUNG (b. 1969), Eulji Theater, 2019

Blending multilayered historical events and personal stories with an alternative narrative and theatrical framing, Jung's colossal photograph provides what for many people will be an important introduction to the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). Set at Eulji Observatory, one of 13 such observatories along the Military Demarcation Line, the work depicts a "Miss Korea" swimsuit competition that actually took place in the observatory in the past, alongside other factual and fictional elements. Jung recalls and reinvents the DMZ's history in a monumental and multisensory manner, grappling with the trauma caused by conflicts that continue to impact Korea's identity as a divided nation yet reclaiming a unified identity for all Koreans by uniting North and South in a shared history of the artist's own re-creation."